ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय (ग्रामीण विकास विभाग) में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर): (क) राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार कार्यक्रम तथा ग्रामीण भूमिहीन रोजगार गारंटी कार्यक्रम को मिलाकर दिनांक 1.4.89 से एक ही योजना जवाहर रोजगार योजना बना दिया गया है। जवाहर रोजगार योजना उत्तर पूर्वी राज्यों सहित देश के सभी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कार्यान्वित की जा रही है।

(ख) और (ग) उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्यों में भुखमरी अथवा बच्चों के बेचने का कोई मामला भारत सरकार की नजर में नहीं आया है।

(घ) उत्तरी-पूर्वी राज्यों में आदिवासियों को रोजगार मुहैया कराने के लिए इन राज्यों को जवाहर रोजगार योजना के अंतर्गत काफी आवंटन किए गए हैं।

ग्रामीण गरीबों को गैर-कृषि मौसम के दौरान 100 दिन का अकुशल शारीरिक श्रम का सुनिश्चित रोजगार मुहैया कराने के अतिरिक्त सरकार ने 2.10.93 से पुनर्गठित सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत कवर किए गए देश के 1778 पिछड़े खण्डों में सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना आरम्भ की है। इन खण्डों में अन्य खण्डों के साथ वे खण्ड भी शामिल हैं जहां आदिवासी जनसंख्या अधिक है।

Integrated Rural Development Programme in Maharashtra

3240. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that benefits under Integrated Rural Development Programme do not properly reach the beneficiaries, particularly to SC/STs in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to overcome these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-MENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) Data available for 1993-94 show that 217.7 thousand families were assisted under IRDP in Maharashtra of which 91.7 thousand families belonged to SC/ ST category. Generally, there have been no complaints that benefits are not reaching properly.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Several steps have been taken to ensure that benefits under IRDP reach eligible beneficiaries, especially SC/ST families in all states including Maharashtra. The ceiling on IRDP subsidy is the highest for SC/ST families at 50% of the cost of the project subject to a maximum of Rs. 6000. Some additional steps have been taken recently to enhance benefits accruing to IRDP beneficiaries. These include raising of per family investment level, extension of family credit plan for more intensified dosage of assistance and revision of infrastructure norms to improve the productivity of IRDP investments.

Involvement of Corporate Sector to Reclaim Wastelands

3241. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to involve corporate sector on its different sectors to reclaim wastelands in the country.

(b) if so, the various incentives proposed to be granted to the corporate sector for the purpose; and

(c) the reaction of the Corporate sector thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAO RAM SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have finalised the Investment Promotional Scheme to facilitate/attract/chanelise/mobilise resources from Financial Institutions, Banks, Corporate Bodies including User Industries and other Entrepreneurs for Development of Wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to Central and State Governments, Panchayats, Village Communities, Private Farmers etc.

(b) The various incentives available under this scheme for the corporate sector include:

(i) Central assistance by way of promotional grant/promotional subsidy limited to Rs. 25 lakhs or 25% fo the total cost of a